

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SANTIA 03076 01 OF 02 152015Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SIL-01
LAB-04 COME-00 /082 W
-----152028Z 096100 /41
R 151708Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4375

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 SANTIAGO 3076

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, CI, PINT
SUBJECT: DEMOCRATIC LABOR UNIONS WANT OWN LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

REF: 76 SANTIAGO 4216

1. SUMMARY: THE GOC WILL HOLD A MAY DAY CELEBRATION FOR 2500 PRO-GOVERNMENT LABOR LEADERS. BUT A GROUP OF DEMOCRATIC UNION LEADERS HAVE ASKED PERMISSION TO HOST THEIR OWN COMMEMORATION IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE RESTORATION OF BASIC TRADE UNION RIGHTS. THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (PDC) AND COMMUNIST UNIONISTS HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE ACT. THE NEW INGREDIENT IS THE PDC'S INCREASED NEED TO USE LEGALLY RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS AS A VEHICLE FOR ENUNCIATING ITS POLICIES. THE AUTHENTIC LABOR LEADERS MUST BE CAREFUL. BUT THE GOC HAS PROBLEMS TOO: CARDINAL SILVA MAY BE PREPARING TO BEARD THE JUNTA AGAIN. END SUMMARY.

2. THE GOC HAS INVITED 2500 LABOR SUPPORTERS TO AMY DAY CELEBRATION AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, DIEGO PORTALES. FOR THE FIRST TIME, PRESIDENT PINOCHET WILL SPEAK AT THE CEREMONY AND WILL PRESENT NEWLY-CREATED AWARDS (SILVER MEDALS) TO THE BEST WORKER IN AGRO-INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION, RETAIL SALES, MANUFACTURING, MINING
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SANTIA 03076 01 OF 02 152015Z

AND MARITIME SECTORS. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO WILL HOST THE CUSTOMARY SPORTING EVENTS LATER IN THE DAY WITH PARTICIPATION BY GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED UNIONS AND BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS.

3. THE "DINAMICOS", A GROUP OF TEN DEMOCRATICALLY ORIENTED TRADE UNION LEADERS, ARE DETERMINED TO HAVE THEIR OWN SHOW. THEY JOINTLY REQUESTED GOC PERMISSION TO HOLD A SEPARATE FUNCTION -- A REQUEST

ENDORSED BY 112 OTHER UNIONS AND FEDERATIONS. TO KEEP PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT, INVITATIONS ARE GOING OUT TO GOVERNMENT AND CHURCH AUTHORITIES, DIPLOMATS AND INTERNATIONAL AND FOREIGN LABOR ORGANIZATIONS EVEN BEFORE THE GOC HAS REPLIED TO THEIR REQUEST. TWO HOURS OF CHILEAN FOLKLORE PRESENTATIONS ARE TO MAKE UP THE BULK OF THE CEREMONY AND "DINAMICO" LEADER EDUARDO RIOS PLANS TO MAKE THE ONLY SPEECH. RIOS TELLS US THAT HE EXPECTS TO PICK UP THE BASIC THEMES THESE UNIONISTS HAVE LONG URGED -- THE RESTORATION OF THE STILL SUSPENDED RIGHTS TO BARGAIN COLLECTIVELY, MEET FREELY AND ELECT UNION OFFICIALS. HE PROBABLY WILL NOT CALL FOR RESTORATION OF THE RIGHT TO STRIKE, THE LABOR ISSUE MOST OFFENSIVE TO THE GOC.

4. CARDINAL SILVA PLANS TO CELEBRATE THE TRADITIONAL WORKERS' MASS LATER IN THE DAY. RIOS SAYS THAT THE CARDINAL ALSO WILL ATTEND THE MORNING FUNCTION -- IF THE GOC AUTHORIZED THE MEETING. IF NOT, THE CARDINAL SAID HE WOULD RESCHEDULE THE MASS TO COINCIDE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S DIEGO PORTALES SESSION.

5. COMMENT: IN PAST YEARS, DISSATISFIED WORKERS HAVE SHUNNED THE GOC FUNCTION AND CONFINED THEMSELVES TO ATTENDING THE MASS AT WHICH THE CARDINAL HAS POINTEDLY REVIEWED CHURCH SOCIAL DOCTRINE. THIS YEAR THE "DINAMICOS" TOOK THE SPOTLIGHT BY DIRECTLY CHALLENGING THE GOC TO LET THEM HOLD A SEPARATE FUNCTION. TO ADD WEIGHT TO THEIR REQUEST, THEY SOUGHT ADDITIONAL ENDORSEMENT FROM OTHER LABOR LEADERS. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THE "DINAMICOS" LOOKED FOR SUPPORT FROM THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE ONLY OTHER SIGNIFICANT VOICE OF DISSENT LEFT IN CHILE, THROUGH THE CHURCH-RELATED CARDIJN FOUNDATION.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SANTIA 03076 01 OF 02 152015Z

6. THE CARDIJN FOUNDATION ENTHUSIASTICALLY OBTAINED ENDORSEMENTS FROM LEADERS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH IT WORKS FOR THE MAY DAY REQUEST. SINCE MANY OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE COMMUNIST-LED, APPROXIMATELY ONE-THIRD OF THOSE BACKING THE IDEA OF A SEPARATE FUNCTION ARE COMMUNISTS. TO BUFFER THEMSELVES FROM THIS POTENTIAL KISS OF DEATH, THE "DINAMICOS" LIMITED THE FORMAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE TO THEMSELVES AND PLAN TO KEEP THE MICROPHONES AWAY FROM THE LEFTISTS BY PROVIDING FOR ONLY ONE SPEECH -- RIOS'.

7. AS IF COPING WITH THE JOCKEYING OF THE GOC, CHURCH GROUPS AND THE COMMUNISTS WERE NOT ENOUGH, THE "DINAMICOS" SIMULTANEOUSLY FIND THEMSELVES IN A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC), TO WHICH A MAJORITY OF THEM HAVE BELONGED. EVEN IN THE HALCYON DAYS OF PDC GOVERNMENT, THE LABOR COMPONENT SAW AS THE COUNTRY COUSIN OF THE PARTY POLS. THESE STRAINS IMMENSELY INCREASED AFTER THE 1973 COUP, AND THE FORMATION OF THE "DINAMICOS" SYMBOLIZED THE SCHISM BETWEEN THE PARTY AND ITS TOP LABOR LEADERSHIP, WHO SET ASIDE PARTISAN TIES IN FAVOR OF JOINING OTHER AUTHENTIC

DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONISTS TO PURSUE TRADE UNION GOALS. THE
MODUS VIVENDI WHICH HAD EVOLVED WHILE THE PDC WAS "IN RECESS"
BUT STILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SANTIA 03076 02 OF 02 152018Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SIL-01
LAB-04 COME-00 /082 W

-----152028Z 096129 /41

R 151708Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4384

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 SANTIAGO 3076

LEGAL NO LONGER SUITED THE PARTY AFTER ITS FORCED DISSOLUTION IN
MARCH, 1977. NOW, AS NEVER BEFORE, THE PARTY WANTS TO WIN BACK
THE COOPERATION OF ITS OLD LABOR LEADERSHIP AND ENLIST THEIR
SUPPORT IN A BROADER, POLITICALLY ORIENTED CAMPAIGN TO RESTORE
DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS TO CHILE.

8. A PDC LIAISON MAN (LUIS ORTEGA) HAS TOLD US THAT THE PARTY IS
DISTRESSED AT THE LACK OF COOPERATION FROM RIOS AND OTHER
"DINAMICOS". HE SAYS THAT THE PARTY HAS TRIED TO TELL RIOS THAT
IT COULD BE HELPFUL IN KEEPING TOGETHER RIOS' DISINTEGRATING MARITIME
CONFEDERATION, BUT RIOS STILL DOES NOT WANT TO PLAY. (RIOS
SHREWDLY FIGURES THE PDC HAS TO SUPPORT HIM IN ANY EVENT.) PDC
CONCERN HAS REACHED THE POINT THAT IT IS SETTING UP A MEETING
BETWEEN RIOS AND ELDER STATESMAN EDUARDO FREI, WHO WILL
APPEAL TO RIOS TO FOLLOW PARTY POLICY.

9. ALL OF THIS MAKES THIS YEAR'S MAY DAY OF MORE THAN PASSING
INTEREST. CERTAINLY AT LEAST SOME IN THE GOC CAN DISTINGUISH
BETWEEN THE "DINAMICOS" AND THE OTHER FORCES AT PLAY. IN THE
PAST, HOWEVER, THE GOC HAS CHOSEN TO IGNORE SUCH SUBTLETIES IN
FAVOR OF DEPICTING A CABAL OF FORCES ARRAYED AGAINST NATIONAL
SECURITY. HAVING FORESWORN DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH THE CHURCH
FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF THE HIGHLY CRITICAL BISHOPS' STATEMENT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SANTIA 03076 02 OF 02 152018Z

(SANTIAGO 2555), IT MUST ESTIMATE DECIDE WHETHER ITS WANTS TO
HAVE A CONFRONTATION NOW.

10. THE BELEAGUERED "DINAMICOS" ALSO FIND THEMSELVES IN A
DELICATE POSITION. THEY ARE UNDER SIEGE BY AN ANTIPATHETIC
GOVERNMENT AND INVOLVED WITH OTHERS WHO WISH TO USE THEM FOR
THEIR OWN PURPOSES. WHATEVER THEIR FAILINGS, THEY ARE PUTTING UP
A GOOD FIGHT.
POPPER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR OBJECTIVES, MAY DAY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANTIA03076
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770132-0111
Format: TEL
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770452/aaaabszb.tel
Line Count: 183
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fee098a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SANTIAGO 4216
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2792756
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMOCRATIC LABOR UNIONS WANT OWN LABOR DAY CELEBRATION
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fee098a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009